



Banbury Springs lanx

Lanx sp

STATUS

Endangered (57 FR 59257, December 14, 1992)

DESCRIPTION

The Banbury Springs lanx is a snail that is native to western North America. Its conical, pyramid-shaped shell is red-cinnamon in color, .09 to .28 inches in length, and only .03 to .17 inches tall. It is found only in cold, clear, well-oxygenated waters with swift currents. Lanx are found on smooth basalt, boulders or cobble-sized grounds ranging from two to 20 inches deep, but avoid areas with green algae. This species only lives about one year. Older adults die following reproduction in late winter to early spring.

HISTORY

The lanx was first discovered in 1988 at Banbury Springs. A second population was found one year later at Box Canyon Springs, joined by another in the Thousand Springs area near Hagerman, Idaho. A fourth population was recently discovered at Briggs Springs in the Hagerman Valley.

DISTRIBUTION

Today, the Banbury Springs lanx only occurs in the largest and least disturbed spring complexes at Banbury Springs, Box Canyon Springs, Thousand Springs and Briggs Springs.

WHAT HAS THREATENED THIS SPECIES?

Because the limpet is found only at three sites within the Snake River drainage in Idaho, it is extremely vulnerable to habitat changes. The free-flowing, cold water environments required by this species have been threatened by hydroelectric development and operation, water withdrawal and diversions of springs, and water pollution in the aquifer.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP RECOVER THIS SPECIES?

Monitoring and habitat protection will be necessary to protect this species. A Management Plan for the Banbury Springs lanx complex is currently underway by Idaho Power Company.

REFERENCES

USFWS. 1995. Snake River Aquatic Species Recovery Plan.

